



Building Cost Modeling

Building Square Foot Cost Analysis by DCD Magazine

Design Cost Data, published since 1958, is the industry resource for buildings and their actual cost to build. DCD maintains a massive database of hundreds of different types of buildings and costs, cost factors, and other valuable information. This database is the DCD Archives.

Following are cost analysis by building type using the project data in the DCD Archives. Buildings were grouped by size, floors, and construction materials and averaged to determine a square foot cost by location. The costs do not include architectural or engineering fees.

The DCD Archives is available anytime to DCD Subscribers. DCD Subscribers have full access to the project database and factors for cost estimating, costing project scenarios, answering, “how much?” and more. View an online demo of how the DCD Archives works.

DCD Archives

Start Preliminary Estimating Today

- View extended cost data (view subdivision costs)
- Add divisions or subdivisions costs
- Change divisions or subdivisions costs
- Modify divisions or subdivisions costs
- Save a project for later use
- Adjust total square footage
- Cost escalators through 2019
- Over 600 regional modifiers
- Printer friendly cost reports

Building Cost Estimating & Archiving Software

Not only does DCD provide the most accurate construction cost references, but we also provide software!

D4COST is a conceptual cost estimating tool used by building professionals across the country. It includes software, a database of over 1,000 historical projects, cost escalators and regional modifiers. D4COST provides a unique platform that allows you to enter your own data to explicitly target estimates on similar constructions.

The D4COST Software was developed by Design Cost Data and was introduced in to the construction industry almost 2 decades ago. The cost modelings with case studies are published by DCD Magazine. Check out our DCD Archive demo and please feel free to contact with us questions and concerns at

DCD Archives - Professional Building Cost Estimating on the Internet

This website provides a reliable preliminary square foot cost for any type of building during budgetary and/or preliminary stages of design. Users of this website can create and print Professional Preliminary Square Foot Cost Estimate instantly with exclusive access to the DCD Archives™s.



DCD Sq.Ft. Cost Guides

Since 1958 Design Cost Data has been the #1 publication devoted to actual square foot building costs. DCD is based upon the philosophy that actual buildings, when coupled with up-to-date cost indices, are the most reliable basis for future building costs. Each issue of DCD contains real projects from around the nation and their final cost to build along with an architectural statement, building manufacturers, and pictures and plans.

DCD maintains the DCD Archives™, an archive of over 1,500 actual projects featured in DCD online at DCD.COM. The following cost guides have been compiled from projects archived in the DCD Archives™ and escalated to the month and year of the DCD publication date and to a historical location factor of 1.

The DCD Archives™ is an interactive database for preliminary cost estimating, cost modeling, 'what if' scenarios, and cost research. The DCD Archives™ is a DCD subscriber bonus and can be accessed anytime with a subscription to Design Cost Data.

Design Cost Data Magazine

For the industry's leading resource on preliminary building costs and historical construction costs, look no further than Design Cost Data magazine. The DCD magazine issues include square foot building costs from real buildings across the nation, material cost trends, square foot cost guides and more informative industry articles.

Whether you're a general contractor, an appraiser, an architect or anyone who frequently works with design cost data, you can benefit from the information provided in the DCD magazine for preliminary and conceptual estimating.

DCD Cost Trends

Design Cost Data™ magazine and BNi® Building News are devoted to bringing the industry critical information to assist in developing reliable cost estimates. To help the construction professional project future building costs, each issue of Design Cost Data includes an editorial section on Cost Trends.

Cost Trends is compiled from information from the U. S. Department of Labor, the Producer Price Index, and the findings of BNi Building News. BNi Building News contributes their findings in each issue of DCD for a variety of different commodities that impact the construction industry and the cost to build.

Conceptual Cost Estimating Software

D4COST is the nation's #1 building cost estimating software for conceptual estimating created from ACTUAL projects that have been built. D4COST supplies you with a library of 1,100 real projects (buildings) NOT an average. D4COST is the best source to validate any preliminary cost, develop a reliable preliminary or conceptual square foot cost estimate, cost feasibility, valuation study, or budget.



D4COST is in thousands of offices across the country, from top 500 companies to one-person firms. Architects, General Contractors, Design Build Firms, Insurance Companies, Consulting, and other building industry professionals. Archive Your Past Project Data. NO limits on the number of projects you can archive. Model from your past project cost data with speed and accuracy.

D4COST offers three conceptual/archiving solutions:

D4COST (full system)

D4COST Express Pro

D4COST Express

For more information please visit
<http://www.dcd.com>